Supreme Court guidelines about pollution to Taj

1268. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has held the Ministry responsible for violating the directives of the pollution to Taj Mahal.;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines/directives issued by the Supreme Court to this Ministry for implemen : tion.

(c) whether Government propose to implemented the directives of the Supreme Court in letter and spirit; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Implementing the agenda of RIO conference for improving Environment

1269. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent and in what manner, items of Agenda 21 agreed upon at the Rio Conference have been implemented; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government, either singly or in collaboration with other developing countries, to secure expeditious implementation of items which can help in improving environment in India and other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Agenda 21 is the global plan of action adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in June, 1992 at Rio de Janeiro with the aim of integrating environmental considerations into the development process. Progress made so far in the implementation of Agenda 21 has been uneven. At the national level the Ministry of Environment and Forests has initiated discussion with all Ministries/Departments, and the Planning Commission, with a view to internalise the concept of austainable development into all sectors and to facilitate increased allocation of resources on this basis.

India is an active Member of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) set up after the UNCED to monitor national, regional and global implementation of the Agenda 21. We have prepared a National Environment Action Programme, focussing on seven broad areas of concern. ESCAP has initiated steps for preparing a Regional Action Programme for Asia and the Pacific. Full implementation of Agenda 21 and of the other Agreements reached at the UNCED would require the provision of new, adequate and additional financial resources. In the three years since the UNCED, significant progress in this direction has been the creation of the restructured Global Environment Facility (GEF), with a replenishment on $ 2 billion. We have consistently raised the issue of inadequate funding in international meetings.

Death of endangered breed animals in Delhi Zoo

1270. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious sickness of a female Ass of the endangered breed from Rann of Kutch has been reported in the Delhi Zoo;

(b) if so, details thereof with reasons for such serious sickness;

(c) whether the male partner of female Ass had also died in Delhi Zoo, some time before;

(d) whether it is a fact that similar incidents of serious sickness and death of endangered breed animals have been reported in the past in Delhi Zoo;

(e) whether these incidents show that Delhi Zoo lacks arrangements for keep of animals of endangered breed including poor look after of animals;

(f) whether Government propose to take some serious steps in this regard; and

(g) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The symptoms of the sickness were loss of appetite, frothy salivation, constipation and excoriation on the tongue. The reasons for such serious sickness was diagnosed as viral infection. However, inspite of all the efforts the animal died on 3-3-95.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) There were some cases in the past of sickness and death of endangered animals in Zoo.

(e) to (g) Central Zoo Authority has evaluated the zoo while recognizing it and made certain recommendations which covers veterinary care also. The Zoo is taking steps to implement the recommendations in a phased manner as per fund availability.

"Provision for checking vehicular emissions"

1271. SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any programme of the Central Pollution Control Board to check the smoke of vehicles in the capital;

(b) whether there is a provision for every petrol pump in the capital to keep instruments for checking vehicular emissions; and

(c) whether these instruments are properly calibrated to show accurate reading and what is the programme of Central Pollution Control Board to check calibration of these instruments in every petrol pump in the capital;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration have approved a number of petrol pumps/workshops for monitoring of vehicular emissions and issuing a certificate of compliance.

(c) According to Central Pollution Control Board, during inspection it was found that at some places, the testing equipment were not properly maintained and calibrated. The Delhi Administration has been asked to take appropriate steps in the matter.

Forest cover in Andhra Pradesh

1272. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) How after the Ministry of Environment and Forests commission-